



Privatising punishment in Europe?

Thursday, 24 November 2016

Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts, Brussels

State punishment is – by definition – a public affair. Violations of criminal law provisions are usually processed by criminal justice agencies, that is, public police, prosecutors, judges and agencies involved in executing penal sanctions such as probation services or prisons. However, the boundaries between public and private have never been drawn that sharply: even modern European democracies have always relied on some private actors' involvement in punishment, such as religious or philanthropic participation in (post-) penitentiary care, the delivery of goods and services (such as catering) or the age-old cooperation with private companies who use and profit from inmates' labour to produce goods within prison settings.

Nonetheless, it seems that in recent times the question of private sector involvement in the area of punishment has come to be framed in altogether new terms. From a global perspective the US has been a fore-runner of privatising prisons and other key-parts of its correctional system. In Europe, England and Wales has moved the furthest along these lines, with a long tradition of private prisons and, more recently, privatising parts of its probation service. On the European continent developments are somewhat less clear-cut but we nonetheless observe various forms of public-private cooperation in building and maintaining (new) penal institutions and an increasing presence of private companies offering security services within penal institutions as well as delivering security goods such as electronic monitoring and other equipment to penal authorities. Such developments are part of a wider trend towards privatising and marketising security.

This conference has three major objectives: (1) to map and describe trends of privatising punishment throughout Europe, thereby paying attention to prisons as well as community sanctions; (2) to stimulate reflection and research on the causes and consequences of privatising punishment throughout Europe; (3) to initiate a dialogue among academics and key public and private actors on the future of privatisation in Europe.



Dit contactforum wordt gesteund door de Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten.

PROGRAMME

09u00 – 09u30: Registration

09u30 – 09u45: Welcome

Prof. Dr. Tom Daems (KU Leuven) & Prof. Dr. Tom Vander Beken (UGent)

09u45 – 10u30: Privatising punishment in Europe? An agenda for research and policy

Prof. Dr. Tom Daems (KU Leuven) & Prof. Dr. Tom Vander Beken (UGent)

10u30 – 11u00: Coffee break

11u00 – 11u45: Consequences of privatization

Prof. Dr. Malcolm Feeley (University of California at Berkeley)

11u45 – 12u30: The commercial corrections complex and electronic monitoring in a digital era

Prof. Dr. Mike Nellis (University of Strathclyde)

12u30 – 13u30: Lunch

13u30 – 14u15: French probation and prisoner resettlement: Involuntary privatisation and sequential referencing

Prof. Dr. Martine Herzog-Evans (University of Reims)

14u15 – 15u00: Privatization of punishment in Central Europe

Prof. Dr. Krzysztof Krajewski (Jagiellonian University)

15u00 – 15u30: Coffee break

15u30 – 16u15: What is lost when punishment is privatised?

Prof. Dr. Lucia Zedner (University of Oxford)

16u15 – 16u30: Closing remarks

Prof. Dr. Tom Daems (KU Leuven) & Prof. Dr. Tom Vander Beken (UGent)

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES

When?

24 November 2016

09u00 – 16u30

Where?

Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts

Hertogsstraat 1

1000 Brussels

Registration?

Participation is free of charge, but places are limited and registration is required **before 10 November 2016** at

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Organisation?

This conference is jointly organised by the Leuven Institute of Criminology (LINC) (<http://www.law.kuleuven.be/linc>), research line 'Punishment and Control' (KU Leuven) and the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP) (www.ircp.org) (UGent).

